

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 10 November 2005. Responsive to the rejections made by the Examiner in the Official Action, Claims 1 and 7 are now amended for further prosecution with the other pending claims. It is believed that with such amendment of Claims 1 and 7 there is a further clarification of.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-3 and 5-7 under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Breuer (US Patent 6409072). Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Ashmead (US Patent 5690763). These rejections are respectfully traversed.


The presently-claimed micro-filter for filtering blood cells has two channel structures which are made by MEMS technology and are connected with each other, *wherein different opening widths of the two channel structures are used to filter blood cells of different sizes.*

With regard to the Breuer and Ashmead: Breuer's device is stacked with all *identical* structures (column 9, line 25), while Ashmead's device and structures have a different design purpose ("chemical processing," Abstract) which is unrelated to—and not appropriate for—filtering blood cells. The present claims recite *different opening widths* and the second opening having a second width smaller than the first width for filtering second blood cells that are smaller than the first blood cells. Neither Breuer nor Ashmead mentions this feature.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,


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